

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Fourth Graders Cook Up Culinary Fun with Library Aide, Thanks to Rumson PTO

Rumson, NJ (October 31, 2025) – Thanks to the generous support of the Rumson PTO, fourth-grade students at Forrestdale recently enjoyed a unique lunch and recess experience, creating their own personal pizzas under the guidance of Library Aide, Ms. Carofine. This hands-on culinary adventure marked the first session of “Cooking with the Library Aide.”

Students who expressed interest began by selecting a pizza recipe from "The Healthy Cookbook" through a group vote. Following Ms. Carofine’s instruction, they practiced reading the recipe, carefully measuring ingredients, and mastering basic cooking techniques. The lesson extended beyond the kitchen, incorporating a brief history of one of America's favorite foods. Students learned about the origins of pizza, including its connection to the Great Depression and the story of Frank Mastro, who sought to help his community by bringing affordable pizza to New York City.

“It was wonderful to see the students so engaged and enthusiastic,” said Ms. Carofine. “They not only learned valuable cooking skills but also gained a deeper understanding of food history. Plus, they got to enjoy the delicious results of their hard work!”

The Rumson PTO's funding made this enriching experience possible, providing the necessary ingredients and supplies for the students to create their personalized pizzas. The program successfully combined learning and fun, demonstrating the power of hands-on activities in education.

